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AM-ASSASSINATE 5-3

BY DANIEL GILMORE

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- THE FBI SHOULD BE CONSIDERED THE PRIME SUSPECT IN A CONSPIRACY TO KILL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BECAUSE IT ENGINEERED HIS MOVEMENTS TO A MEMPHIS MOTEL ROOM AND THEN WITHDREW SECURITY, ACCORDING TO INVESTIGATOR-AUTHOR MARK LANE.

LANE SAID THE FBI INSPIRED NEWS STORIES CRITICIZING KING FOR STAYING AT WHITE HOTELS AND MOTELS. THE STORIES LED KING TO STAY AT THE BLACK-RUN LORRAINE HOTEL WHERE HE WAS KILLED IN 1968, LANE SAID.

THE AUTHOR SAID THE FBI ALSO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR REMOVING ALMOST ALL THE SECURITY GUARDS AT THE LORRAINE HOTEL THE DAY KING WAS SHOT.

LANE APPEARED TUESDAY WITH BLACK COMEDIAN DICK GREGORY, HIS CO-AUTHOR OF "CODE NAME ZORRO," A BOOK ON THE KING CASE, AND GERRY RAY, BROTHER OF JAMES EARL RAY, WHO PLEADED GUILTY TO THE KING MURDER.

THE FBI USED THE NAME "ZORRO" IN REFERRING TO KING DURING YEARS OF HWRASSMZNT IN A CAMPAIGN PERSONALLY DIRECTED BY THE LATE J. EDGAR HOOVER.

LANE PRODUCED A FILMED INTERVIEW HE SAID HE HAD APRIL 22 AT BRUSHY MOUNTAIN PARK, TENN., PRISON WITH RAY. IN THE INTERVIEW, RAY SAID HE WAS HAVING HIS CAR SERVICED AT A MEMPHIS GAS STATION AT THE TIME KING WAS MURDERED.

RAY'S ATTORNEY, JACK KERSHAW, SAID IN PETROS, TENN., THERE IS A WITNESS WHO CAN PLACE RAY AT A SERVICE STATION DURING THE CRITICAL PZRIOD AND "HAS MADE A STATEMENT." HE DID NOT ELABORATE.

LANE SAID HE BELIEVED RAY WAS ENMESHED IN A SMUGGLING RING RUN BY "RAOUL," A MYSTERY FIGURE, AND MAYHHAVE UNWITTINGLY BECOME ENTANGLED IN THE KING CONSPIRACY.

GERRY RAY, ASKED WHETHER HE WAS RAOUL, SAID HE PLANNED TO SUE A MAGAZINE WHICH MADE THAT ALLEGATION. HE SAID HE HAD NOT SEEN HIS BROTHER FOR THREE MONTHS BEFORE THE KING ASSASSINATION.

"I KNOW DEFINITELY THERE WAS A RAOUL," GERRY RAY SAID. "THERE IS NO WAY OF KNOWING WHO IT WAS BECAUSE HE (HIS BROTHER) DIDN'T KNOW WHO IT WAS."

LANE TRACED THE FBI CAMPAIGN TO DISCREDIT KING, INCLUDINGHAN ANONYMOUS LETTZR TO KING SUGGESTING HE COMMIT SUICIDE RATHER THAN HAVE INCRIMINATING EVIDENCE OF ALLEGED SEXUAL MISCONDUCT FORWARDED TO HIS WIFE AND MADE PUBLIC.

MOSTHOF THE FBI ACTIONS WERE EXPOSED DURING CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATIONS OF FBI MISDEEDS.

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